



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services
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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

July 1, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: LME Directors

FROM: Flo Stein
Chief, Community Policy Management

RE: Work First/Child Protective Services/Substance Abuse Services Initiative
Qualified Substance Abuse Professional (QSAP) Update

As you know, the Division of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services and the Division of Social Services have partnered to provide substance abuse and mental health services to recipients of Work First Family Assistance.

North Carolina law requires both divisions to complete certain activities. For example, all adult applicants and recipients of Work First Family Assistance are to be screened for substance abuse. Further assessment is required where indicated by using the AUDIT/DAST-10 or the Behavioral Observation Checklist. QSAPs complete a thorough assessment of the individual, including a voluntary mental health screening. If appropriate, then a substance abuse treatment plan is developed and a referral is made to the LME for treatment.

Additionally, QSAPs are available to Child Protective Services (CPS) Case Planning and Case Management for those families where substance abuse has been identified as a factor in the substantiation or the decision that the family is in need of services.

DMH/DD/SAS and DSS have formed a workgroup to assess the implementation of the program. Also, we want to make sure that the design of the WF/CPS/SA Initiative is in line with reform. The North Carolina Council of Community Programs has designated representatives to participate in these discussions.

During the next several weeks the Division office will contact each LME to inquire how you are meeting the intent of the general statutes. A copy of the law is attached for your convenience.



If you have any questions before then, please contact Smith Worth at (919) 733-4671.

Attachment: G.S. 108A-29.1 and G.S. 108A-25.2

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom
Allen Dobson, MD
Executive Leadership Team
Management Leadership Team
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